

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for her Office Action of June 27, 2003. Favorable reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-5 and 12-16 are now pending in the Application. Claims 6-11 have been cancelled and claims 1-5 and 12-16 have been amended. These claims contain no new matter and are supported by the specification (FIGS. 2 and 3, in particular), nor are believed to raise any new issues.

1. Rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112

The Examiner rejected Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph for insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "the plastic clamp." The Applicant has amended the limitation "the plastic clamp" to satisfy the requirement of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112. The scope of the claim has not been changed in meeting these formal requirements for antecedent basis.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

2. Rejection of Claim 1-3, 6-10, 12-14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

With respect to paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-3, 6-10, 12-14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Liu (5269598) in view of Le (5594627). Applicant has cancelled claims 6-11 making the rejection of those claims moot. The Applicant expressly reserves the right to argue the rejection and/or amend the

claims in this or a continuing Application. The Applicant has also amended claims 1-5 and 12-16 and as a result is believed to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

The Applicant's claimed invention is a fixing device without screws as illustrated in FIGS. 1 to 3. In accordance with the Applicant's claimed invention, the device comprises a plastic fan guard 112, a plastic fixture 104 and a first plastic hook 102, wherein the plastic fan guard 112 has a stepped front surface, at least two sidewalls and a rear cavity. The plastic fixture 104 and the first plastic hook 102 are respectively set on the front surface of the plastic fan guard for collectively setting up the protocol-control-information long card 300. The two second plastic hooks 110 are respectively set on the two sidewalls of the plastic fan guard. In addition, the plastic fixture 104 is set on the front surface of the plastic fan guard, and the second plastic hooks are set on the two sidewalls of the plastic fan guard.

The Liu reference teaches a fixing device 7. As shown by FIG. 8 of the Liu reference, it does not teach that the fixing device 7 has a stepped surface. Moreover, the two second plastic hooks 746 and the plastic fixture 75 are arranged on the plastic fan guard 74 (according to FIG. 9), and the two second plastic hooks 746 and the plastic fixture 75 are set on two opposite sides. In other words, the location of the two second plastic hooks 746 in the Liu's reference is different and teaches away from Applicant's claimed invention.

The Le reference teaches a circuit card retainer, but does not teach a stepped surface.

Neither the Liu or Le references teach that the fan guard has a two-step front surface nor do they teach that the location of the two second plastic

hooks is set on the two sidewalls. Therefore, the subject matter of the amended claims 1 and 12 are not obvious in view of the combination of the Liu and Le references and claims 1 and 12 are patentable over the Liu and the Le references. Likewise, by virtue of their dependence on patentable claims 1 and 12, respectively, claims 2-3 and 13-14 and 16 are also nonobvious and patentable over the Liu and Le references.

With respect to paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 4, 5, 11 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Liu(5269598) in view of Le(5594627) further in view of Blatti(6396690). Applicant respectfully asserts that this rejection has been overcome as well.

In accordance with FIG. 2 of the presently claimed invention, the plastic fan guard 112 has a first air port 106 and a second air port 108 for respectively radiating heat from the protocol-control-information long card and the hard disk. The first air port 106 and a second air port 108 are set on the same front surface of the plastic fan guard.

However, in contrast, FIG 1 of the Blatti reference teaches that the first air port and the second air port are set on the different surfaces of the plastic fan guard. Therefore, the subject matter of the amended claims 4, 5, 11 and 15 is not obvious over the combination of the Liu, Le and Blatti references and therefore are believed to be patentable over the combination of Liu, Le and Blatti.

Should the Examiner find that this response has not adequately addressed all 35 U.S.C. §103 rejections set forth in the Office Action of June 27, 2003, the Applicant expressly reserves the right to present further evidence and/or argument regarding skill in the art and/or secondary

considerations, in a supplemental amendment.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims as currently presented are in condition for allowance and hereby respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience and should the Examiner believe that a in-person or telephone conference expedite the prosecution of the Application, she is invited to contact the Applicant's counsel at the numbers listed below. Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the art cited but not relied upon by the Examiner. Applicant believes that these references do not affect the patentability of the claims as currently presented.

Respectfully submitted,
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